for the reason stated, they were adopting a very improper procedure.

Mr. K. C. SUBBANNA asked whether it was open to members of the Assembly to challenge rulings from the Chair.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY replied that they were not challenging the ruling. But they were merely showing their displeasure at a particular ruling.

The members of the Congress party then staged a walk out.

Rao Bahadur N. S. NANJUNDIAH submitted that he and some of his friends were also walking out of the House for ten minutes to show their dissatisfaction with the ruling of the Chair.

Mr. N. S. Nanjundiah, Mr. Bhupalam R. Chandrasekharayya and three or four other members also walked out.

REPRESENTATIONS.

No. 1.—Representation of Muslims in the Gazetted ranks of the Engineering Department.

Mr. T. M. KHAN (Tumkur *cum* Kunigal, Mahomedan—Rural).

Mr. T. M. KHAN prayed that, as the representation of the Muslim community in the Gazetted ranks of the Engineering Department was very meagre, the Government be pleased to appoint Muslim Engineering graduates as probationers to start with.

Mr. SYED MOHIYUDDIN SAHEB supported the representation. He stated that in order to take their Engineering Degree the Muslim youths must have put in several years and incurred a lot of expenditure and it would be a poor consolation to them to be started on small salaries of Rs. 50. Besides, it would take a long number of years for them to reach higher posts. He therefore requested that some special preference be shown to Muslim graduates by giving them Gazetted appointments in the Engineering Department.

Mr. S. N. M. RAZVI stated that the encouragement given to Muslim Engineering graduates in Madras was much more substantial than in Mysore. The graduates were first appointed as probationers and after one or two years service, they were appointed as regular Engineers. He requested that similar preference be shown to Muslim graduates in Mysore.

Mr. SYED ABDUL RAHIMAN endorsed the opinion of the previous speaker.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (Mr. M. G. Mehkri) replied that Muslim graudates who passed the B.E. and also completed their practical training were being appointed as Sub-overseers on Rs. 50. In a very short time, as vacancies in the Overseer's grade occurred, they were getting promotions in the grade of Rs. 80 rising to Rs. 125. This concession was available not merely to Muslims in particular, but to as many non-Brahmin graduates as possible. It was difficult, for Government to agree that such a special treatment should be confined to Muslim graduates only.

Mr. T. M. KHAN stated that he never intended that the special preference should be confined to Muslim graduates only. His request was that Muslim graduates as well as other non-Brahmin graduates might be taken as probationers in the Gazetted ranks.

Mr. M. G. MEHKRI replied that as far as possible, Government were giving special encouragement to them in all departments of Government.

No. 2.—Exempting the raiyats in villages from *night kaval* duty.

Mr. S. VENKATASAMI GOWDA (Malur—Rural).

Mr. S. VENKATASAMI GOWDA represented that the raiyats in villages toiled hard from 5 o'clock in the morning to 9 o'clock in the night, attending to their agricultural operations. It did not seem proper to entrust them with *night kaval* duty after the day's hard work. Neither could they discharge their duties satisfactorily. It was a sad commentary, on the system that, of the raiyats who paid land assessment, only those in villages were required to attend to *night kaval* duty while those in the taluk headquarters

had no such duty to discharge. As all people in the State were the subjects of His Highness the Maharaja, it was prayed that the raiyats in villages might be exempted from *night kaval* duty.

No. 3.—Abolition of *night kavals* in villages.

Mr. K. NANJUNDA RAO (Pavagada—Rural).

Mr. K. NANJUNDA RAO represented that according to the existing rules in village parts, the villagers were expected to arrange for the *night kaval* under the direction of the concerned patels. If the appointed villagers failed to discharge that duty, they were liable to punishment according to law. This system was neither consistent with the civilised life of the present day nor useful and practicable. It might also adversely affect the modern civilised life. This was introduced at a time when theft, robbery and riots were common. It was therefore prayed that the system of village *night kaval* be abolished and if Government desired to continue that, it might be arranged by appointing paid servants, meeting the cost thereof out of any one of the taxes that were being collected from the people.

Mr. Ballam SRINIVASA RAO opposed the representations on the ground that the *night kaval* system was very necessary for the villages. Regular Police were on duty in towns and it was for that reason that townsmen were exempt from *night kaval* duty. People in the villages, however, could afford neither to maintain a special police nor to forgo the benefits of the *night kaval* system.

Mrs. H. S. MADHAVA RAO said that it was true that the villagers who were almost always agriculturists would feel fatigued at the end of the day and would therefore find themselves unable to do *night kaval* duty. Some relief was therefore called for in that respect. She therefore suggested that some suitable scheme be devised whereby it would be unnecessary for the raiyats doing *night kaval* duty, to keep awake all through the night. *Totis* and *talaries* must, in any case, keep awake and for that they must be given an extra remuneration of Rs. 2 per month. The raiyats themselves might merely go round once or twice with the *totis* and *talaries* and return to sleep. If and when emergencies arose and a call was given, not only the raiyats doing the *night kaval* duty, but as many of the villagers as possible, might come out and meet the emergencies. But *night kaval* system itself was one which should not be abolished.

Mr. T. SHADAKSHARAPPA supported the representation. He said that because of the *night kaval* system, it was possible for the village patels to launch cases against particular raiyats whom they did not like, though cases were not being launched against persons who were in the patels' good books even though they failed to do their duty. It was necessary to take away such discriminatory powers from the patels. Secondly, in spite of the system of *night kaval*, thefts had not been prevented in the villages. *Night kaval* system had therefore not been of any practical benefit to the villagers. Thirdly, the question had already been decided that the system might be dispensed with in all villages in which the concerned people did not favour it. There was therefore no necessity for keeping on the system as a general rule.

At this stage, the Congress members walked in and resumed their seats.

Mr. S. N. M. RAZVI observed that the *night kaval* system had resulted in compelling the villagers to put in service without receiving any return for it. It had given vast powers to patels for bringing to trouble the raiyats whom they did not like. It might be that sometimes a raiyat would be compelled to do *night kaval* duty though some one in his house happened to be ill, or a child-birth was imminent, etc. It looked as though, particular villagers who rendered personal service to the patels would be exempt from the *night kaval* duty or from the effects of not doing that duty . On the whole, this system was working as a great hardship

to the villagers. In the circumstances, it was well that the system itself was abolished.

Mr. H. HONNIAH agreed that the system must go. Sometimes in the cities and towns, objection was not taken even when a policeman expected to be on duty, was actually asleep. But in the villages, objection was being taken for the raiyats doing *night kaval* duty sleeping in their houses even off and on. This, he said, was very unfair.

Mr. M. HANUMANTHIAH represented that *tolis* and *talaries* were put to untold hardship as a result of the system of *night haval*. He therefore begged that the system be done away with without delay.

The MINISTER for LAW (Rajaseva-prasakta A. V. Ramanathan) explained that it was the intention of Government that as far as possible the villagers must be trained to attend to their own needs, and become self-reliant. The *night kaval* system was one calculated to foster such a spirit. If the system was found to contain any defects, it was up to those concerned to remedy them. This was essentially a matter in which the villagers must co-operate with the Government in remedying defects. It was very easy to suggest that the system of *night kaval* should be abolished. But it was not equally easy to say which other arrangement should take its place. The villagers might consider whether they could have special police, or if a police force could be spared by the Government, whether the villagers could afford to bear fresh taxation in order to meet the cost of such force. After all, this was an instance of civic responsibility having been entrusted to villagers. It would not be wisdom on the part of the villagers to say that Government themselves should discharge that responsibility. Government could not discharge responsibility in local matters on behalf of the villagers for all time to come. Even if they could do so it would not be consistent with the villagers, spirit of self-reliance which every one—Government and the people—wanted to foster. If therefore, the villagers in any particular case, found a suitable substitute and in view thereof wanted that the *night kaval* system should be dispensed with, Government would be glad to do so.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH said that it would not be possible for villagers to find substitutes for the *night kaval* system. Secondly, so long as citizens and townsmen were compelled to attend to their own police needs, it did not stand to reason that villagers only should be asked to keep watch during nights. Besides, in many places the scheme existed in name only. Practically, it was only an additional weapon placed in the hands of patels with the help of which they could bring to trouble all those whom they did not like. He therefore thought it best that the system should be dispensed with.

The PRESIDENT said that the representation would be considered.

No. 4.—Appointment of Muslims in the Police Department.

Mr. ABDUR RAUF KHAN (K. G. F. Sanitary Board, Bowringpet—Mahomedan—Rural).

Mr. ABDUR RAUF KHAN prayed that, in respect of appointments to be made in the cadre of the officers of the Police Department, the proportion of the Muslim community as fixed by the Government at three-tenths so long ago as 1874, and confirmed by the successive administrations and particularly at the Budget Session of the Assembly in 1918 and also in the Budget Session of June 1924, be strictly adhered to and that any deficiency in the present strength be also made up so as to bring it to the prescribed proportion.

Mr. KHAJI SYED YUSUF SAHIB supported the representation.

Mr. Bhupalam R. CHANDRASEKHARAYYA opposed the representation In doing so, he requested that he should not be mistaken as being opposed to the best interests of any particular community. It might be a fact that a certain percentage of appointments was definitely assured for the Muslim community. But, it was necessary to bear in mind that that promise must have been given under a particular set of circumstances which were not existing at present. Besides, in those days the

number of appointments in the Police Department itself was very meagre. Service in the department was also very difficult and uncertain. Again, there was a difference made as between martial and non-martial races at one time. But, in recent years, even the Government of India had dispensed with such distinctions, and members of all religions, castes and communities were considered fit for taking up appointments in that department.

Mr. KHAJI SYED YUSUF SAHIB asked whether members of all communities were equally willing to go to the battle field.

Mr. Bhupalam R. CHANDRASEKHARAYYA said that it would not be correct to say that at the present time, members of any particular community, were not prepared to do so. At any rate, if one or two appointments went to members of a minority community, the majority communities would at once feel aggrieved. It would not be good for Government, therefore, to occasion such a grievance. The speaker would suggest that even for the recruitment to the Police Department, the Government might institute competitive examinations, so that irrespective of communal considerations, the most deserving alone would get appointments. The competitive examinations might provide not only for testing the educational equipment of the candidates, but also the physical fitness, etc. Under such conditions, even if the members of the Muslim community should happen to get 60 per cent of the appointments, the speaker would have nothing to say against it. In the alternative, he suggested that all appointments be distributed to duly qualified members of several communities according to population. Nobody had any right to suggest anything which would in effect prejudice the interests of other communities. Bearing this principle in mind and also that recently His Highness the Maharaja as well as the Government were following the policy of dealing fairly by all communities, the present representation should not be granted.

Mr. SHAIK AHMED SAHEB said that the Police Department should be considered on a par with the Medical Department and it was therefore necessary to recruit proper men to the department. Muslims had played a prominent part in the history of almost every kingdom in India and in every period of history. They had gone abroad and earned their fame for valour. Of all communities in India, it was the privilege only of the Mahrattas, the Sikhs and the Muslims to join the Military Department in large numbers. In modern times, however, the other communities also were showing a tendency to seek service in that department. They might have a right to do so. But on that account the privilege to which particular communities had entitled themselves on account of past services should not be allowed to be affected. Secondly, the Muslim community had not received the benefits of higher education. They also had no lands of their own to cultivate. They were unable to engage themselves in trade and commerce. Bearing in mind all these circumstances, it was for the Government to see that the special share of appointments in the Police Department which had been promised to the Muslim community was not reduced for any reason.

Mr. A. N. RAMA RAO said that no great principle was involved in this representation and that Government might perhaps give their reply.

Mr. B. R. PUTTANANJAPPA mentioned that this question had come up in the Budget Session of the Legislative Council in the year 1940, at the instance of Khan Bahadur Mahomed Abbas Khan. The speaker had occasion to have his say on that subject, as also the present Minister for Local Self-Government. Nobody could object to efficiency and communal justice being secured as the two prominent ideals by the Government, and members of the Assembly would extend to the Government their whole-hearted co-operation in distributing appointments on such basis. But they could not support any community which might seek to encroach upon the rights and privileges or prejudice the interests of other communities. This also was a principle which was as

important to bear in mind as the two objects referred to by the mover.

KHAJI SYED YUSUF SAHEB said thad the Muslim community was entitled to a special share of appointments in recognition of the Military services rendered by that community in the past.

Mr. H. KRISHNAMURTHY ACHAR contended that it was not right to allot any large share of appointments to the Muslim community. The Muslims seemed to claim such a share as a matter of right. It could not be forgotten that the Hindus also had served His Highness the Maharaja in the past as faithfully as any others. They did so even now and would continue to do so in future also. If the Muslims were entitled to special share for similar reasons, the Hindus could advance a similar claim. Secondly, the requirements of the Police Department were special, namely good physique, absolute honesty and certain amount of intelligence. Mere physique was not all. Irrespectively, therefore, of communal considerations, whoever answered the above description deserved to be appointed in the Police Department. That would be the best way of safeguarding public interest. If appointments were given merely on communal considerations even in a utility department like the Police, then it was the public that stood to suffer. To say this however, was not to allege that Muslims were not fit for appointments in the Department of Police, or as for that matter, in any other department. Of late they were also receiving the benefit of higher education and as more and more youngmen of the Muslim community did so, they would naturally be entitled to appointments in the various departments in the usual course.

The MINISTER for LAW (Rajaseva-prasakta A. V. Ramanathan) stated that he was following with rapt attention the discussion on this representation. He was sorry to have to observe that certain facts had not been correctly appreciated or accurately stated. He made this observation not with the intention of opposing the representation before the House but to show that the discussion was not very helpful to a proper appreciation of the circumstances of the case. Reference had been made to "promises" by Government and to the "right" of the Muslim community to preference in the Police Department. Reference had also been made to a circular relating to the year 1874. He would like to tell the House straightaway that that circular was only a draft on which a note had been recorded to the effect that the judicial Commissioner would be glad to learn the views of District Officers. At the time that circular was contemplated, it was found that particular communities were preponderating in particular district or places and it was thought that was not a very desirable thing. It was therefore proposed that steps should be taken to see that, as far as possible, members of all communities were given appointments in all districts and places. That was the reason why a proposal like that had emanated. But no circular on the lines of that draft had been actually issued. Sometime thereafter, however, an order was issued to the effect that while it was not desirable to restrict the discretion of the Deputy Commissioners in their selection and employment of qualified and deserving men, it was necessary that they should bear in mind that the main object to be aimed at was the prevention of the undue preponderance of any one class or community among the ranks of the police. In that connection, the maximum extent of representation of particular communities was defined. The proportion referred to in the representation before the House perhaps referred to one of the limits so prescribed. Conditions had greatly changed since that date. If these facts were borne in mind, members were certainly free to discuss their respective claims. It was open to any community to say that the representation to it in any given district should be improved. So far as Government were concerned, they would always be pleased to consider how best the interests of all the communities could be served bearing in mind the policy previously laid down, the conditions now prevailing and the claims of other communities.

Mr. S. N. M. RAZVI stated on behalf of the mover that the reply of Government was quite satisfactory and that the Muslim members of the House had full confidence in the Government. They did not see the necessity therefore of pressing the representation any further.

No. 5.—Establishment of a Police Station and the abolition of *night kaval* in Konanur village.

Mr. Venkataramaiah (Arkalgud—Rural).

Mr. K. VENKATARAMAIAH represented that in the Konanur Town Municipality there was a Police Range Office for over one hundred years. There was no *night kaval* in that town, so long as the Police Range Office existed. This Range Office was shifted to Remanathapura some years back. From that time the *night kaval* system had come into force. That was a big commercial place with a big Town Municipality bordering on Coorg. The shifting of the Range office had worked as a great hardship on the people and the safety of the people was geopardised.

For the above reasons, it was resolved in previous years in the Municipal Council that the Range Office should be re-shifted to this place and the *night kaval* system abolished and further, as an alternative, it was resolved to give a Police Station at least. Hence, it was prayed that a Police Station be given to this town and *night kaval* abolished. The member added that the Police Range Office had been shifted without adequate reasons and without notice to the people affected. As the village of Konanur was in the proximity of the Coorg frontier, the existence of a Range office was very necessary. Representations in this behalf had been made a number of times to the Deputy Commissioner as well as to the Dewan. They had kindly promised to consider the question sympathetically.

Mr. K. NANJUNDA RAO asked whether *night kaval* system was not in force even in places in the moffusil where police stations existed.

The MINISTER for LAW (**Rajasevaprasakta A. V. Ramanathan**) observed that there seemed to be real hardship caused to the people of Konanur by the abolition of the Police range office. Government would consider how best the necessary relief could be given. It might be hoped that orders would have been passed in the matter before the following session of the Assembly.

No. 6.—Levying proper Assessment on lands in Channagiri Taluk.

Mr. GOWDARA GURUSIDDAPPA (Channagiri—Rural).

Mr. GOWDARA GURUSIDDAPPA represented that in some villages of Channagiri Taluk where there were no gardens, garden assessment was levied and in some other places, where there were no wet cultivation, wet assessment was being levied. He therfore prayed that such things be set right after proper investigation.

The MINISTER for REVENUE and FINANCE (**Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman**) asked what specific grievances the member wanted to bring to the notice of Government.

Mr. GURUSIDDAPPA represented that the rates of assessment were working as a hardship because sufficient quantities of water were not being let to help the raiyats to grow garden and wet crops though garden and wet rates of assessments were being levied.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN replied that in that case the benefit of the usual remission might be applied for.

Mr. K. NANJAPPA GOWDA contended that if neither wet nor bagayet crops could be grown due to inadequate supply of water only dry rates of assessment should be levied.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN replied that that was a question which could be gone into only in connection with re-settlement operations. Government would give the necessary relief if any special difficulty in particular cases was brought to notice.

No. 7.—Fixing the bagayet Assessment under river channels at twice the dry Assessment.

Mr. Isthuri SAMPANGI RAMIAH SETTY (Goribidanur—Rural).

Mr. Isthuri SAMPANGI RAMIAH SETTY represented that bagayet assessment under the *atchkat* of river channels be fixed at twice the dry assessment

rates. He added that Government were not giving any special relief to raiyats in respect of lands included in the *atchkat* of channels.

The MINISTER for REVENUE and FINANCE (**Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman**) asked whether the member was referring to lands under any particular channel.

Mr. SAMPANGI RAMIAH replied that he was referring to lands under certain streams and channels in Goribidnur Taluk.

Mr. KHAJI SYED YUSUF SAHIB supported the representation.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN replied that if special concessions were applied for, they could be given as in the case of Madhugiri Taluk.

No. 8.—Reduction of the rates of land Assessment in the Kolar District.

Mr. G. NARAYANA GOWDA (Kolar—Rural).

Mr. G. NARAYANA GOWDA prayed that the present rates of land assessment in Kolar District be immediately reduced as they were considerably high when compared with the rates of land assessment in other places in the State. Before explaining the representation, he stated that it was generally agreed that rates of assessment were very high throughout the State and particularly so in the Kolar District. Members from other districts should not misunderstand his motive if he quoted rates prevailing in other districts for purposes of comparison. He then explained that the Kolar District was the driest in the State and the rainfall was the lowest. There were very few major tanks in that district and under the minor tanks only one crop could be grown. Even this was often-times unsatisfactory unless the rains fell three or four times in the year. Tanks in the Kolar District generally lay in a series so that unless the tanks higher up filled, the lower ones would never fill. In connection with amendments to various Acts in force in Mysore, Government had made frequent reference to similar measures taken by British Indian Provinces. Following that analogy the speaker would request the Government to compare the rates of assessment in Kolar with those in force in British India and particularly the adjoining parts of British India. The member was glad that the Minister for Revenue and Finance had himself visited these parts and made enquiries as Revenue Commissioner. It was found in that connection that the average dry rate of assessment in Kolar was Rs. 2-4-0 and the average wet assessment Rs. 7-8-0, whereas the assessment on the most fertile lands on the adjoining lands of British India was only Rs. 2 or Rs. 2-8-0. Even the bagayat rates in Mysore were very much higher than in Madras. These were weighing too heavily on the Mysore raiyats. The economic position of the raiyat in the Kolar District was very bad. His average income per annum was only Rs 50 whilst his expenditure was Rs. 65. He generally had 4 or 5 children and the family budget showed every year an increasing deficit of Rs.15. Thus the indebtedness of the raiyat went on increasing from year to year. Unless therefore substantial and immediate relief in the matter of assessment was given, the Government were going to kill the goose that lay the golden egg. He therefore appealed to the Government to reduce the rates of assessment in Kolar substantially and without delay.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA reminded the Government that for 15 years past the one subject which always engaged the first attention of representatives from Kolar was that of reduction of land assessment and this was going to be so until Government boldly came forward to announce a substantial reduction throughout the district. The speaker was sure that the Revenue Minister had been convinced in his heart of hearts that the rates of assessment obtaining in Kolar were very much heavier than in Madras. The mover had referred to the desirability of reducing the dry and wet assessments. The speaker would not press the case so far as wet assessment was concerned. Representatives of the district would be satisfied if the Government agreed to reduce at least the dry rates. Personally, he felt that in the

matter of assessment, the amount of injustice done to Kolar District was something that could not be noticed anywhere else. The Revenue Minister had referred, in another connection to the fact that the rates could not be revised until the following survey settlement. By way of reply, the speaker would point out that a few years back the Government had reduced the maximum rate to Rs. 2-12-0. They had not carried out any resettlement before doing that. So if only Government had the will, they could order a further reduction without raising any such plea. After all, they should remember that Kolar was a frontier district. Within 4 or 5 miles from the district, it was found that the British Indian rates were only a few annas per acre. That in itself was a sufficient warrant for a wholesale reduction of rates. It might be that Government Members got disgusted at the too frequent representations that were being made by representatives from Kolar. But even at the cost of incurring their displeasure the Kolar representatives owed it to their constituents to go on representing the case until substantial relief was secured.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN stated that the question had often come up for consideration. Government were glad to have been able to give some relief a few years ago. Members however continued to represent that the relief given was not enough. In this view Government would examine the question again and see what further relief, if any, would be possible.

Mr. S. VENKATASAMI GOWDA asked how long Government were likely to take for passing orders.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN replied that this was not a question which could be summarily disposed of either way.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY thought that a formal and open enquiry was very necessary in regard to this matter.

The PRESIDENT replied that Government would do all that was necessary.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY wanted to know what exactly they proposed to do in the matter.

The PRESIDENT observed that was too much of a detail to be gone into then.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY suggested that after re-considering the case, the Government should at least give an opportunity to the representatives of the people to express their views and opinions before final orders were passed.

The PRESIDENT said that the suggestion had been noted.

No. 9—Reduction of Assessments in Bagepalli Taluk.

Mr. CHIKKAGANGA REDDY (Bagepalli—Rural).

Mr. CHIKKAGANGA REDDY represented that Bagepalli Taluk was the bordering taluk of British India. The rainfall in these parts was very poor and rivers, canals and such like sources of water for cultivation were absent. The rains being untimely, many of the tanks would not fill in time. For want of repairs, however much the rain had fallen, the raiyats had been unable to grow even one good crop a year. For the same reason, even the dry crops were failing every year. The raiyats of this taluk were therefore unable to bear the burden of heavy rates of land revenue. Hence he prayed that the prevailing high rate of dry assessment be reduced so that it might not exceed Re. 1 and the wet and bagayat assessment Rs. 6 per acre in consideration of the miserable condition of the raiyats.

The PRESIDENT said that this representation had been covered by the previous one.

No. 10.—Reducing the Land Revenue on unused wet lands.

Mr. C. SUBBANNA NAIK (Koppa—Rural).

Mr. C. SUBBANNA NAIK represented that the garden area in malnad parts was raised in ancient times purely out of monsoon rains instead of using the tank water. In latter days rains had failed and many of these arecanut gardens had been spoilt for want of regular supply of water and in certain cases, they had been converted into wet and dry lands. But on these lands, bagayat assessment was being levied.

He therefore, prayed that during *jamabandi*, the Jamabandi officer be empowered to reduce the assessment from bagayat to wet or dry, as the case might be, instead of waiting till the Resurvey Settlement.

Mr. Bikkali SITARAMIAH supported the representation. He said that many garden owners had been unable to pay the assessment on account of the heavy rates in force and consequently the lands had all been brought to auction.

The MINISTER for REVENUE and FINANCE (Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman) said that if land was fit for wet cultivation only, instructions to local officers would be issued that only wet rates might be levied even though the lands were shown as bagayat. As regards bagayat lands, the owners of which had lost very heavily due to bad seasonal conditions, it was open to them to bring their grievances to notice so that necessary temporary relief might be given. But Government could not go on re-classifying lands and altering the permanent rates of assessment.

Mr. C. SUBBANNA NAIK represented that while it was easy to get dry lands converted as wet and wet lands converted as dry, it was difficult for the owner of a bagayat land to succeed in getting it converted as wet or dry. He therefore suggested that in all cases in which the owners had not been able to raise satisfactory bagayat crops, all such lands might be permanently converted into wet and only wet rates levied.

No. 11.—Collection of revenue arrears by resort to auctioning the lands.

Mr. S. ANNAPPA SETTY (Chikmagalur—Urban).

Mr. S. ANNAPPA SETTY prayed that arrangements be made to collect land revenue arrears by resort to auctioning the lands in question and that the present system of adopting coercive measures for recovery be abolished.

The MINISTER for REVENUE and FINANCE (Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman) observed that if the representation was acceded to, people might combine and decide upon not bidding at the auctions at all. But generally speaking, there was no need for change in the rules. The existing rules require that the land in respect of which assessment was overdue, must be proceeded against to begin with. This meant that proper notice would be given to the Kathedar. Forfeiture and sale notification would then follow. Even after the sale, the Kathedar would have one month's time to clear the arrears and get back the lands. If the auction was held and still all the dues were not recovered, the difference would be remitted. According to the representation however, if the land was put to auction straightway and people combined as already stated, no part of the arrears could be collected at all. It was only in such cases that movables were being attached.

Mr. ANNAPPA SETTY represented that all the procedure explained by the Minister was not being actually followed and that attachment of movables was being resorted to straightway.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN said that if such specific cases were brought to notice, needful action would be taken.

No. 12.—Cancellation of fines imposed on raiyats by the Revenue Department.

Mr. A. M. KALLIAH (Hiriyur—Rural).

Mr. A. M. KALLIAH prayed that the fines imposed on raiyats for arrears of demands under Land Revenue—Miscellaneous, *Takrar Takthe*, as also the interest that had accrued on the contributions towards restoration schemes in the past year be cancelled.

The PRESIDENT promised that the matter would be enquired into.

No. 13.—Concession on garden lands.

Mr. Karagadi SESHAGIRIAPPA (Nagar—Rural).

Mr. Karagadi SESHAGIRIAPPA prayed that the temporary concession granted at the rate of two annas per rupee of assessment on garden lands in the malnad taluks be made permanent.

The MINISTER for REVENUE and FINANCE (Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman) suggested that the results of the temporary concession

already granted might be watched for some time.

No. 14.—Abolition of wet and dry assessments on lands endowed to Masjids.

Mr. M. ABDUL RASOOL (Seringapatam *cum* French-Rocks *cum* Krishnarajpet *cum* Nagamangala, Mahomedan—Rural).

Mr. M. ABDUL RASOOL prayed that the assessment levied on wet and dry lands endowed to Masjids in the State be abolished.

Nawab SHERKHAN of Honnali Family represented that as the income of some of the Masjids was not sufficient to meet the cost of the services, Government had been pleased to sanction cash grants for them and in respect of some others, lands had been granted subject to payment of the prevailing rates of assessment. But in some cases of the latter type the lands were used merely for grazing purposes due to want of gomal lands. In some other cases again, cultivators were not available and the lands remained fallow. In such cases, the Masjids were not able to pay the full rates of assessment. He was aware that some Hindu temples also were subject to the same hardship. He therefore urged that if these religious and charitable institutions should function satisfactorily in future, the assessment on lands belonging to them should be waived completely.

Mr A. K. SYED RASOOL urged that assessment should be waived in respect of lands belonging to all religious and charitable institutions including non-muzrai temples.

The MINISTER for REVENUE and FINANCE (Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman) said that land assessment was the most important item of revenue to the State, and it would not be right to deal with it so lightly. Everybody agreed that religious and charitable institutions should function efficiently and satisfactorily. But there should be the care not merely of the Government but also of the general public. He was therefore sorry that the Government could not accept the representation.

No. 15.—Granting lands to the raiyats of Karikere, Hassan Taluk, for cultivation and grazing.

Mr. D. R. KARI GOWDA (Hassan—Rural).

Mr. D. R. KARI GOWDA represented that since the population of men and cattle had increased in Karikere village Shantigrama Hobli, Hassan Taluk, the people were suffering without adequate lands for cultivation and grazing their cattle. He therefore prayed that 100 acres of land out of the gomal of the village and 200 acres out of the Amrit Mahal Kaval be granted to them for cultivation and grazing, respectively.

The MINISTER for REVENUE and FINANCE (Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman) said that it was under contemplation to surrender for purposes of cultivation all Amrit Mahal lands not required for *kaval* purposes. Government would examine this representation in that connection.

No. 16.—Free grant of land to the Banajara people.

Mr. JATHARE NAIK (Depressed Class).

Mr. JATHARE NAIK represented that Banajars were living in *tandas* in various parts of the State and they had no ancestral properties on which they could depend for their livelihood. Many of the families had no lands of their own and they were entirely dependent on others for their livelihood and were put to lot of difficulties. He therefore prayed that the Government be pleased to grant lands for cultivation to all such landless Banajara families in the State who had neither any ancestral properties nor any other occupation.

The MINISTER for REVENUE and FINANCE (Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman) expressed the sympathy of Government with this representation. He added that there was full scope even now to give lands to the members of the Depressed Classes and if Banajars, who also came under Depressed Classes, applied, available lands could be given to them.

No. 17.—Granting barren lands free of cost to Adikarnatakas.

Mr. VEERABHADRIAH (Belur—Rural).

Not moved as the mover was absent.

No. 18. -Grant of lands at upset prices to landless Muslim darkhastdars.

Mr. KHAJI SYED YUSUF (Nominated).

Mr. KHAJI SYED YUSUF prayed that landless Muslim darkhastdars might be given wet and dry lands free or at nominal upset price to the extent of 10 and 20 acres, respectively.

The MINISTER for REVENUE and FINANCE (**Rajamantrapravina K V. Anantaraman**) replied that the rules already in existence permitted of grant of lands to landless Muslims as well as to others irrespective of caste or creed, but subject to the condition, namely, that they should be cultivators of land.

Mr. SYED ABDUL RAHIMAN observed that the most deserving darkhastdars were not being benefited as the lands were generally disposed of in open auction and none but the highest bidders would get them.

Mr. HUSEIN ALI BEIG represented that only good lands must be granted to landless people.

The PRESIDENT remarked that it would be impossible to select only good land for such purposes.

Mrs. H. S. MADHAVA RAO said that she was very glad that lands were going to be given to applicants from all communities, but she suggested that instead of allowing the cultivators to take away the crops in entirety, they might be persuaded to forgo a fixed proportion thereof so that the poorer members of the several communities might be helped to find a living. With this object in view she suggested that lands might be granted only to such applicants as undertook to respect such a condition.

No. 19.—Grant of land free of cost or at an upset price to the Devanga people.

Mr. Hungi CHIKKANNA (Dodballapur—Urban).

Mr. Hungi CHIKKANNA prayed that cultivable lands to an extent of five acres each in Dodballapur Taluk might be granted free of cost or at a reasonable upset price to the Devanga people who were poor and who, on account of their poverty could not make use of the several facilities given by Government to earn their livelihood by weaving.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN said that this question also came under the previous representation.

The House rose for lunch and re-assembled at 3-30 p. m.

No. 20.—Building houses in certain portions of Kolar Gold Field area, which are set apart for cultivation purposes.

Mr. R. MUTHUSWAMY (Kolar Gold Field Sanitary Board).

Mr. R. MUTHUSWAMY represented that when, in accordance with the orders of the Revenue Department, people sought permission of the Kolar Gold Field Sanitary Board to build houses on the lands set apart for cultivation purposes, their applications were rejected with an endorsement that the plans, etc., were not satisfactory and that if they failed to abide by their order, they would be sued in a court of law and fined and that those houses would be pulled down. It was not desirable that people should suffer double punishments. In cases of irregularities, he prayed, only one form of punishment might be inflicted.

Mr. Ballam SRINIVASA RAO supported the representation. He said that instead of rejecting applications on the ground that plans were not satisfactory the local officials might as well advise the applicants as to how the plans should be improved. He also wanted that the punishment should end with levy of fine and that houses once built should not be pulled down. He concluded with the remark that the rules were all right in themselves but there was no necessity to enforce them in smaller places as in the case of cities.

The MINISTER for LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT (**Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda**) said that cases of the kind represented were regulated by the bye-laws in force in the Sanitary Board area and that it was the duty of the people to conform to those bye-laws. As regards the necessity of enforcing the bye-laws, he said that it was reported that parties took up agricultural land with the fixed intention of converting

it into house sites and making large profits. It was necessary in such cases that the persons concerned should secure proper permission beforehand by conforming to the rules in this behalf. It was desirable for many reasons that proper licences should be obtained before houses were actually built. The Sanitary Board area was an industrial area and the price of land was something appreciable. If private people converted agricultural lands in such area and made large profits, the interests of the Sanitary Board would naturally be affected. It was therefore necessary to enforce the bye-laws. But if it was the grievance of the people that licences were not being issued and that applications were being rejected arbitrarily then would be the stage for the Government to interfere. But as matters stood, Government did not find it necessary to interfere in a purely local subject like the one under discussion.

Mr. Ballam SRINIVASA RAO again represented that even in cases in which the applicants conformed to rules in all respects, they were subjected to certain hardships by the local officials, and that people had real grievances in the matter. If only the Government instituted enquiries, details would certainly come to their notice instead of members having to mention them openly in the Assembly.

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA promised that enquiries would be made in the matter.

No. 21.—Providing sites and facilities to persons whose houses were acquired near Sir K. P. Puttanna Chetty Town Hall, Bangalore City.

Mr. Yajaman BANDAPPA (Bangalore City—Urban).

Mr. Yajaman BANDAPPA prayed that the Government might be pleased to take immediate steps to provide sites and facilities as per Circular C. C. No. R. 1389-455--L. R. 21-28-50, dated Bangalore, 30th August 1924, to those persons whose houses near Sir K. P. Puttanna Chetty Town Hall, Bangalore City, had been or were going to be acquired.

The PRESIDENT promised that the representation would be sympathetically considered and all possible relief given to the persons affected by the acquisition.

The MINISTER for LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT (Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda) added that the circular referred to in the representation already stipulated the facilities to be created in favour of the Adikarnatakas whose houses were acquired. But that circular could not be applied in the case of the city municipalities. The Bangalore City Municipality had initiated acquisition proceedings but these were not proceeded with for want of funds. Government would however make enquiries whether the acquisition proceedings could be expedited.

Mr. K. HANUMANTHIAH argued that city municipalities had not been excepted from the operation of the circular order referred to, and that therefore parties in the case in question were entitled to all the facilities mentioned in that circular. He also urged that the Government must take the responsibility of giving necessary relief to the parties affected by converting revenue land into house sites and granting these to the persons.

The PRESIDENT replied that while the circular mentioned in the representation referred to facilities to be created in favour of Adikarnatakas, the persons concerned in the particular case under discussion included members of other communities also who were equally poor. Besides, when the municipality paid reasonable rates of compensation and acquired houses, it could not, in reason, be expected to grant sites to the house-owners free of cost. Also, it might not always be possible to grant in the cities all the facilities provided in the case of the villages. In the circumstances the only reply that Government could make in this case was that whatever concessions were feasible would be granted.

Mr. K. HANUMANTHIAH contended that special facilities were called for particularly in the case of Adikarnatakas.

The PRESIDENT stated that it would not be reasonable to ignore the interests of others who were equally concerned. He added however that

in certain places lands had been specially set apart for the purpose of granting house sites for upset prices and if the people affected applied for those sites, they could be granted to them at special concessional prices.

Mr. B. S. CHANDRASEKHARA RAO remarked that no special representation like this was needed for intending applicants going in for available house sites.

Mr. RAMLAL TIWARI brought to notice that the persons whose houses had been acquired waited in a deputation on the Government and that the circular in question had been issued as a result thereof. This being so it could not be contended that the circular did not apply to city municipalities. He also said that some more houses in the vicinity of the Town Hall were proposed to be acquired and that the question raised in connection with this representation should be disposed of before further houses were acquired.

No. 22.—Supply of cattle, implements, manure and seeds, etc., to the members of the Depressed Classes.

Mr. B. BASAVIAH (Chamarajanagar—Rural).

Mr. B. BASAVIAH prayed that in addition to grant of at least two acres of land free of cost, to members of the Depressed Classes throughout the State, they might also be given cattle, implements, manure and seeds free of cost.

In this connection he brought to notice that applications for grant of land were not generally disposed of as expeditiously as possible and he requested the Government to see that delays were avoided.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY thought that not much purpose was going to be served by merely granting lands to members of the Depressed Classes and that necessary facilities should be created for them to cultivate those lands. He also suggested that Government must issue orders that at least for stated number of years the grantees should not alienate the land.

Mr. M. SHANKER LINGE GOWDA interjected that the special facilities to be created should perhaps include the supply of necessary labour also!

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY wanted that lands should be granted free of cost to members of the Depressed Classes; but if the Government thought they could not agree to do so, they should at least create an agency for financing members of the Depressed Classes to the necessary extent recovering the loans in easy instalments spread over a long number of years.

The MINISTER for REVENUE and FINANCE (Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman) informed the member that an experiment such as was proposed had been actually tried in some places near Bangalore in the past, but that experience in this respect had been very bitter. If concerned the people themselves lacked enthusiasm, not much use would result from any such scheme.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY then suggested that in that case, the Government might establish regular colonies for members of the Depressed Classes giving them the necessary advances as was being done in some other cases.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN replied that where facilities existed, the scheme of colonisation could well be extended. The idea in itself was no doubt good; but even then it should be borne in mind that cultivation of land was not so easy. There were any number of cases in which persons asking for and getting lands had disposed of them for profit. There were also individuals who were aware that they themselves could not apply for and get lands. Such persons would induce poorer people to apply for land and as soon as it was granted, they managed to take it over. In some cases important non-officials had come forward to work the scheme of colonisation successfully. If in the case of members of the Adikarnataka community also some institutions came forward to work the scheme, Government were prepared to entertain the idea. The mover of the representation under discussion was himself welcomed to visit the colonies and consider whether he would take up any responsibility in the matter.

Mr. T. M. KHAN asked whether the scheme, if extended, would apply to Adikarnatakas only or include Mussalmans also.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN replied that Mussalmans would not be lost sight of.

Mr. C. T. HANUMANTHIAH represented that in Turuvekere Taluk, a number of Adikarnatakas had applied for land in Bukkapatna, etc, but that their petitions had not been heard at all.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN suggested that the member might bring specific cases of that kind to notice for needful action.

Mr. S. VENKATASWAMI GOWDA stated that in all deserving cases, lands had been granted in Kolar District to landless Adikarnatakas and that such lands were being satisfactorily cultivated also. But he was not in favour of facilities being given to the poorer cultivators including the loan of bullocks, etc.

Mr. M. C. CHELUVIAH said that, if at all, dry lands would be given to Adikarnataka applicants at upset prices; but he was sorry that wet lands were not being granted at all to them. He therefore requested the Government to issue orders that wet lands also might be granted to Adikarnataka applicants wherever such lands were available, the cost being recovered in ten or more annual instalments.

Mr. S. I. MUMTAZ brought to notice that lands granted to Adikarnatakas had been alienated in a number of cases and thus the concession shown by the Government was being put to misuse. He therefore suggested that legislation be passed to the effect that lands granted to poor people should not be alienated at all

The PRESIDENT stated that orders to that effect had already been passed.

Mr. S. I. MUMTAZ brought to notice that they were not being enforced because alienations had actually taken place.

The PRESIDENT assured the member that such alienations would never stand.

No. 23.—Preventing wet cultivation round about villages in Irwin Canal area.

Mr. N. SIVANANJE GOWDA (French-Rocks—Rural).

Mr. N. SIVANANJE GOWDA prayed that the villages round which the Irwin Canal was running be maintained in a healthy condition by refusing to grant permission to carry on wet cultivation within a radius of four furlongs.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH strongly supported the representation. He stated that throughout the Mandya District, the experience had been that the moment dry lands were converted into wet malaria would set in. The question had assumed serious proportions in Kyathanahalli, Mandya, Seringapatam and so on. And, in all such villages he wanted that wet lands all around residential quarters up to a certain distance should be converted as dry. The Government ought not to refuse a request like this coming from the people. Otherwise malaria would take a heavy toll every year so that there would be few left, if at all, whom the wet lands were going to benefit. On account of malaria the value of land also was falling. So also the revenue to Government. In the interests of the health of the people, therefore, he urged that in addition to converting wet lands into dry all around villages, Government should also make up their mind to refuse to convert dry land into wet even in cases where the requests in this behalf were made.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH reminded the Government that the extent of the havoc played by malaria in the Irwin Canal area had been brought to their notice quite a number of times. Government had assured representatives of the people on all such occasions that they were going to take steps to counteract the effects of malaria. The pity of it was that Government generally took action only after malaria had actually set in. The more effective way of securing the health of the people would be by taking preventive action and not by posting Health Officers to administer quinine after malaria had broken out. He therefore appealed to the Government to adopt a bold policy and see that a best round each of the villages in the Irwin Canal area was kept dry. If that was done, malaria could be reduced at least to the extent of 50 per cent. He did not see that there should be any practical difficulties in the way of accepting this representation. The Government

had spent crores of rupees on the Irwin Canal scheme but all that expenditure would go for nothing if everybody in the area should fall a prey to malaria. The condition of people in the affected villages was most pathetic. There was not one healthy face to be witnessed in any of the villages. The position would not improve by appointing any number of officers. It would improve only by keeping a dry belt of land all round the affected villages. Government must kindly remember that every day of delay in taking action as suggested in this representation would mean a loss of so many more human lives.

The PRESIDENT asked whether the member was so sure that malaria could be brought under control by keeping certain extent of land all round the villages dry.

Mr. S C. MALLIAH replied in the affirmative. He then brought to notice that he had himself seen in a number of cases sugarcane crops standing for 20 to 24 months in the immediate vicinity of residential quarters. This meant that water was being let in to the gardens at least once in every four or eight days. No wonder then that mosquitos bred profusely in and around the houses. If at lea t permanent wet cultivation was being carried on, the Government might have some difficulty in acceding to a representation of this kind because the loss of revenue to Government would be very considerable in such cases. But in the case of sugarcane gardens the problem was not so difficult of solution because no question of compensation would arise.

The PRESIDENT wondered whether any measures based on a "rule of the thumb" would yield any practical results.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH requested the Government to try the experiment as a means of arresting the spread of malaria if not also of preventing its appearance in particular villages.

Mr. K. CHIKKALINGIAH stated that the Minister for Local Self-Government had recently visited the affected parts and seen for himself the extent of havoc wrought by malaria. It was decided that unless malaria was rooted out there was no escape from premature death in the villages. The question was one which entailed great responsibility on the Government and they should discharge it with the highest sense of duty and with the greatest possible expedition. No doubt they had carried on a survey at a cost of about Rs. 10,000 or Rs 12,000 of 135 villages out of 400 villages in the Irwin Canal area. Of the 400 villages wet cultivation was being carried on in 180 villages for many years past and they were suffering from the effects of malaria for very long; but malaria survey was being conducted by the Government only in 200 other villages, in which lands were brought under wet cultivation more recently. So long ago as 1920 Sir M. Visvesvaraya had suggested to the Government that one year's revenue of the State would have to be entirely earmarked for malaria control in the Irwin Canal area. Unfortunately, however, the Government remained indifferent to that valuable suggestion because they were not willing to forgo any part of their revenue. So long as they pursued a similar policy in future also, there was not going to be salvation for the people. He appealed to the Government to pursue a bolder policy at least in future and be prepared to spend all the money necessary for saving the human lives which were now being taken away every year.

Mr. BALE SIDDALINGA SETTY supported the representation. He stated that at the time the Irwin Canal scheme was announced, everybody welcomed it. But nobody anticipated that the consequences of the scheme would be so serious as it actually was. It was a fact that hundreds and thousands of people had been affected by malaria and many valuable lives had already been lost. The most effective way of tackling the question, in his opinion, was to release the affected villages from their obligations under the block system of irrigation so that the villagers might raise only dry crops in future and not different crops by rotation. This would incidentally enable the Government to

make better supplies of water for wet cultivation in other villages which were more healthy. He appealed to the Government not to turn down this suggestion on the ground that their revenues would suffer if wet lands were converted into dry.

The PRESIDENT assured the member that Government never entertained such an attitude.

Mr. Bhupalam R. CHANDRASEKHARAYYA said that the present system of cultivation involved an inherent defect in that, after water was used for cultivation, the surplus was not finding its way back to the river. This was because irrigation drainage was anything but satisfactory in the Irwin Canal area. It was this question that deserved the foremost attention at the hands of Government even if it involved an expenditure of several lakhs of rupees. Secondly, the block system of irrigation was also not working satisfactorily in practice, because crops were not being grown according to the programme. He stated that sugarcane was being grown even on dry lands because the Sugar Company was in need of large supplies of cane. This he said was the reason why malaria was spreading in the area. The member therefore urged that this question be considered with all the seriousness which it demanded and that the scheme laid down by Sir M. Visvesvaraya with regard to the block system of irrigation be enforced strictly.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (Mr. M. G. Mehkri) made a statement to the following effect:—

The Government are fully aware that malaria is on the increase in the Irwin Canal area and they are taking necessary action to control the epidemic. They have recently ordered that no wet cultivation should be permitted within a two-furlong zone. The raiyats in Mandya Taluk particularly have co-operated with the Government and executed *mutchalikas* agreeing not to have any wet cultivation within the two-furlong dry zone. If this experiment succeeds, Government will have no hesitation in extending the dry zone further, if necessary. Wherever it was found that malaria was rampant on account of the villages being in a low-lying area, Government have sanctioned the shifting of such villages to higher places, paying the raiyats adequate compensation to shift to the new sites formed. Where this is not necessary, arrangements have been made to effect proper drainage of the valleys or *hallas* and canalize the channels, to prevent mosquito breeding. In order to keep the tanks dry, arrangements have been made to construct scouring sluices to drain off all the water during summer. A number of tanks have thus been kept dry during summer and the rest will be taken up during the course of the year. By the creation of the two-furlong dry belt all round the villages, an extent of about 35,000 acres of wet lands will be thrown out of wet cultivation and Government are prepared to lose contribution and water-rate on this large extent to secure better health to the raiyats in the Irwin Canal area. I may assure the House that Government will not stint any sum that may be necessary for improving the health conditions of the villages in the Irwin Canal area.

No. 24.—Acknowledgment and disposal of petitions received in taluk offices.

Mr. VENKATARAMANA GOWDA (Hunsur—Rural).

Mr. VENKATARAMANA GOWDA prayed that all petitions received in Taluk offices be acknowledged and disposed of within a stated time.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA pointed out that in the Madras Presidency, in the case of every petition received, the system of giving an endorsement that the petition had been received and action would be taken on it, was in vogue. He believed that in the higher offices in Mysore State also, the same system was being followed. But in the taluk offices, petitions were not being acknowledged at all and in most cases, they would never see the light of day. Consequently it would be very difficult to know to whose hands a particular petition was given and how it was disposed of. If in each case an endorsement was given to the party that his petition had been received and action would be taken on

it, that would give an assurance to him that his petition was not going to be lost sight of and that some action, one way or the other, would be taken on it. The officials also would be afraid that if they did not take action on such petitions, the inspecting officers might trace to them cases of delay or neglect. That would in itself ensure prompt disposal of all petitions as far as possible. He therefore requested that printed acknowledgment forms be supplied to taluk offices and orders issued that every petition received must first be invariably acknowledged. He believed that this was not going to add to the work, nor was mere filling up the blank spaces in the printed form likely to take up much time of the officials. At the same time, it would give real relief to the petitioners.

Mr. M. SUBBIAH stated that some such arrangement had been made in the Seringapatam Taluk office and suggested its adoption in all the other taluk offices.

Mr. M. N. JOIS observed that even if the system recommended involved the appointment of additional hands, it would be worth while, because the raiyats stood to derive some benefit therefrom. They would be glad that their petitions had been registered and that they were going to find some sort of regular disposal. If, after a long time, they did not hear again from the taluk office in the matter, they could approach the Amildar, show him the endorsement and place their cases before him. If they had no such acknowledgment on hand, they would have to present their case right from the beginning every time and much time would be taken up in that way. Even then, the Amildar might not be able to locate the petition and the connected papers. Thus, there was a clear necessity for the grant of acknowledgments to parties. Such a system was in vogue formerly and the speaker did not know why it had been given up.

Mr. B. R. PUTTANANJAPPA suggested that acknowledgments should be written or printed only in Kannada.

The PRESIDENT replied that Government were in full sympathy with the representation. He stated that necessary instructions had already been issued in the matter of acknowledging the receipt of petitions in the different offices and that, in view of the representations made by the members, the attention of the taluk offices would once again be drawn to those instructions.

Mr. VENKATARAMANA GOWDA suggested that, apart from the question of prompt acknowledgment, a time limit should also be fixed within which the petitions should be finally disposed of.

The PRESIDENT replied that that was not practicable. In the first place, various kinds of petitions were received in taluk offices, including pseudonymous and anonymous petitions in some cases; some might refer to matters pertaining to courts of law and the taluk offices might have nothing to do with them. Secondly, while some of the petitions could be disposed of early, in respect of others, from the very nature of the subject-matter involved, their disposal would necessarily take some time. Further, it was likely that a number of petitions would be received at different times in respect of one and the same matter which might have been already disposed of. Considering all these circumstances, it might not be feasible to fix a definite time-limit to be adhered to in all cases. The time taken for disposal of each case would of necessity depend upon the nature of the case.

As regards acknowledgment of petitions, however, he assured the member that taluk offices would again be instructed to issue an acknowledgment as soon as possible after the receipt of each petition.

No. 25.—Improvement of scales of pay of the village panchayat establishment in taluk offices and confirmation of the concerned incumbents.

Mr. M. H. NARAYANA RAO (Molakalmuru—Rural).—

Mr. M. H. NARAYANA RAO said that ever since 1927 when the village panchayat system came into force, the panchayat establishment of the taluk office was being kept on a temporary basis. When promotions were given to revenue clerks in 1932, the pay of the clerks on the panchayat establishment was not correspondingly revised.

Considering this and in view of the fact that the clerks had been entrusted with responsible duties, such as attending to rural water supply schemes etc., he prayed that they also be made permanent and their scale of pay fixed at Rs. 25-1-40 as in the case of revenue clerks in taluk offices.

Mr. Khaji SYED YUSUF SAHIB did not support the representation. He thought that there was no necessity to have a special panchayat staff in each taluk office and that the revenue clerks themselves might be asked to attend to panchayat work also. He was of opinion that all members of the staff should be regular officials of the Revenue Department, available for transfer from place to place in the usual course.

Mr. K. NANJUNDA RAO pointed out that the work which the panchayat establishment was attending to was quite different from that of the revenue clerks. So there could be no meaning in suggesting that the revenue clerks could as well attend to the work now turned out by the panchayat staff. Secondly, as the latter were still kept on a temporary basis, people in the villages were honestly doubting whether the panchayats too had been constituted only temporarily. At least to dispel this doubt, if for no better reason, it was necessary to make the village panchayat staff permanent. And in view of the responsible nature of the duties assigned to them, it was necessary that their pay should be on a par with that of the officials of the Revenue Department.

The PRESIDENT replied that the representation would be noted for consideration.

No. 26.—Entrustment of collection of *gutta* in Amrit Mahal Kavals to the Revenue Department or the Village Panchayats.

Mr. B. HUTCHE GOWDA (Turuvekere—Rural).—

Mr. B. HUTCHE GOWDA represented that the assessed portion in Amrit Mahal Kavals was exclusively meant for the benefit of the cattle of particular villages and not for Amrit Mahal cattle. He therefore prayed that the collection of *gutta* by the Amrit Mahal Department as at present be put a stop to and the work entrusted either to the Revenue Department or to the concerned village panchayats.

The MINISTER for REVENUE and FINANCE (Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman) asked whether the member was referring to Amrit Mahal Kaval lands surrendered to the Revenue Department for agricultural purposes.

Mr. B. HUTCHE GOWDA said that he was referring to gomal reserves included in Amrit Mahal kavals but occasionally auctioned for grazing purposes. The *guttige* amount was being collected by the Amrit Mahal Department.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN thought that the Revenue Department had nothing to do with these collections which were accruing to the Amrit Mahal Department.

Mr. B. HUTCHE GOWDA stated that the levy itself was new. Originally the village cattle were allowed to freely graze on these lands, without any question of payment, so that the collections could not be said to legitimately belong to either the Revenue Department or the Amrit Mahal Department.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN promised that the matter would be enquired into.

No. 27.—Abolition of water cess.

Mr. HARIAPPA *alias* **THIMMAPPA** (Sagar—Rural).—

Mr. HARIAPPA represented that the water cess levied on lands which mainly depended upon rain water and to which no water was being supplied from tanks or canals, be abolished.

The MINISTER for REVENUE and FINANCE (Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman) thought that the member was perhaps referring to the abolition of irrigation cess, because water cess was a term which did not apply to cases of the kind described.

Messrs. M. N. JOIS and V. VENKATAPPA said that the idea seemed to be that in the case of rain-fed lands, only dry rates should be collected and all the difference between the prevailing

dry rates and the rates actually levied on such lands should be waived.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN observed that it was quite a principle of equity that a higher assessment should be paid in cases where better crops were raised.

Mr. V. VENKATAPPA urged that even irrigation cess should not be levied in the case of rain-fed lands.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN replied that irrigation cess was a totally different matter. If wet crops could be grown, it necessarily meant that the necessary water was supplied and in every such case there must be some source or other of supply.

Mr. V. VENKATAPPA remarked that at that rate everything in the world would have to be taxed!

Mr. C. SUBBANNA NAIK pointed out that on dry lands in the malnad, on which only dry crops were raised, no irrigation cess was levied whereas, if wet or bagayet crops were raised, the cess was levied even though the lands were dry. He thought that it was unjust to levy the cess in the latter type of cases.

Mr. K. L. NAGABHUSHANA BHATTA contended that irrigation cess was a double levy in the case of the malnad and urged that it must be abolished.

Mr. HUSEIN ALI BEIG said that in the case of dry lands situated below some source of water supply, it was presumed that they also received the benefit of water supply and therefore wet assessment was levied without regard to the nature of the lands themselves. And over and above the wet assessment, irrigation cess was also added. He thought that this was very unjust and requested that the cess be waived. He also requested that the amounts already collected in the shape of cess in all such cases be refunded to the parties.

Mr. K. NANJUNDA RAO brought to notice that in view of repeated representations on this point, Government were pleased to order that irrigation cess should not be levied in certain cases. But while the benefit of that order was extended to certain lands, the claims of other land owners for the same had been lost sight of.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN stated that the question of abolition of irrigation cess on rain-fed lands had come up a number of times before the Assembly and replies had been given that it was not possible to abolish the cess. The reasons for not granting the request had also been explained on all those occasions. He had not thought, by looking at the present representation as printed, that it was the abolition of the irrigation cess that was meant by the mover. And for the reasons already given, the speaker regretted that for the present the Government could not accede to the representation.

Mr. K. HANUMANTHIAH asked when the Government were proposing to examine the question again.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN replied that it would be re-examined at the time of the following resettlement.

No. 28.—Village survey.

Mr. Sannagowdara CHANNABASAPPA (Davangere—Rural).—

Mr. Sannagowdara CHANNABASAPPA prayed that a village survey in respect of sites be conducted to avoid litigation among the raiyats in the villages.

Mr. G. KANCHAPPA brought to notice that in several cases there was very wide divergence between the measurements of sites as noted in the village panchayat accounts and in the *khaneshumari* accounts. This had led to endless litigation among the raiyats. He therefore supported the representation and suggested that the survey be caused to be made by the taluk officials in the presence of panchayatdars who should attest the measurements in token of their accuracy. And in order to put an end to all future litigation, he suggested that in addition to the correct measurements, the boundaries should also be noted in the case of each site.

Mr. T. SHADAKSHARAPPA did not believe that the trouble apprehended would arise in all cases. After a village site was divided into a number of house sites, the latter would be disposed

of to different purchasers. Each purchaser would apply for and secure a sale certificate issued by the taluk office. Every such certificate would show the correct extent of measurements on the different sides, and also the boundaries of the site in question. So no disputes could arise in such cases. Even if they arose, they could be settled by a reference to the sale certificates where available. Trouble would arise only if the certificates could not be produced. But on that account, it was not necessary to conduct a survey of all the village sites.

Mr. A. SRIKANTIAH said that if any particular village panchayat felt that a fresh survey of the sites was necessary it could be taken up.

Mr. K. VENKATARAMIAH thought that a survey, as suggested, would be very useful. If necessary, the concerned village panchayat might be made to bear the cost of the survey.

The PRESIDENT pointed out that, as in the case of record of rights operations, each khatedar would have to bear the chargeof the survey.

Mr. K. VENKATARAMIAH said that there could be no objection to it.

Mr. HUSEIN ALI BEIG requested that the representation be accepted subject to the course suggested by the President. The speaker said that that would give relief to a large number of raiyats who were now involved in litigation due to absence of a correct record of the measurements and boundaries of sites in the villages.

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN remarked that one could not be sure that all litigation would stop by the representation being acceded to. He, however, added that the representation would be considered.

The House rose at 5 p.m. to meet again at 12 of the clock the following day.